

# Mineral Industry Surveys

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## MARKETABLE PHOSPHATE ROCK IN AUGUST 2006

U.S. marketable phosphate rock production in August was 2.7 million metric tons (Mt), which was 7% higher than that in July according to the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS). Total production for January through August was 19% lower than in the same period of 2005.

Phosphate rock used in the United States in August was 2.45 Mt, a 4% decrease from that of July. Total used in January through August was 18% lower than in the same period of 2005. U.S. producer stocks were 3% higher than in July.

Imports of phosphate rock were estimated based on U.S. Census Bureau figures and data from the Moroccan producer

because Census suppressed some phosphate rock import data for Morocco. The Moroccan producer supplies more than 99% of the phosphate rock imported by the United States. In addition, Census trade data were not available for the current month. The USGS estimated that imports of phosphate rock have averaged about 192,000 metric tons per month in 2006.

Apparent consumption of phosphate rock for 2006 is estimated to be 32.2 Mt using annualized use data, plus estimated imports. Domestic apparent consumption for 2005 was 37.8 Mt. Apparent consumption was based on phosphate rock used, plus imports minus exports.

TABLE 1  
U.S. PHOSPHATE ROCK STATISTICS<sup>1</sup>

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Marketable production	Sold and/or used	Ending stocks <sup>2</sup>
2005:			
January-August	25,200	24,300	XX
August	3,340	3,190	6,660
September	3,250	2,940	7,040
October	2,850	2,670	7,280
November	2,490	2,730	7,000
December	2,380	2,580	6,780
January-December	36,200	35,200	XX
2006:			
January	2,520	2,670	6,620
February	1,970	2,230	6,370
March	2,570	2,370	6,500
April	2,570	2,570	6,540
May	3,000	2,540	7,000
June	2,590	2,510	7,260
July	2,510	2,550	7,220
August	2,700	2,450	7,470
Total	20,400	19,900	XX

XX Not applicable.

<sup>1</sup>Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

<sup>2</sup>Includes inventory adjustments.

TABLE 2  
U.S. IMPORTS OF PHOSPHATE ROCK<sup>1</sup>

(Thousand metric tons and thousand dollars)

Period	Quantity	Value <sup>2</sup>
2005:		
January-July	1,030	45,300
July	103	4,840
August	66	1,810
September	158	5,520
October	159	6,290
November	195	7,200
December	112	4,120
January-December	1,720	70,300
Total year <sup>3</sup>	2,630	107,000
2006: <sup>4</sup>		
January	170	7,100
February	74	2,180
March	193	9,460
April	115	5,720
May	126	5,890
June	256	16,000
July	135	6,400
Total	1,070	52,700

<sup>1</sup>Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

<sup>2</sup>Cost, insurance, and freight values at U.S. ports.

<sup>3</sup>Includes an estimate for data suppressed by the U.S. Census Bureau.

<sup>4</sup>Data for the current month were not available at time of publication.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau; data on the majority of phosphate rock imports from Morocco were suppressed by Census.

TABLE 3  
COMPARATIVE U.S. PHOSPHATE ROCK STATISTICS<sup>1</sup>

(Million metric tons, unless otherwise specified)

	2004	2005	2006 <sup>e, 2</sup>
Marketable production:			
Florida and North Carolina	30.3	W	W
Idaho and Utah	5.4	W	W
Total	35.7	36.2	30.7
Sold or used by producers:			
Florida and North Carolina	30.8	W	W
Idaho and Utah	5.0	W	W
Total	35.8	35.2	29.9
Yearend stocks	7.0	6.8	7.5
Exports reported by producers	--	--	--
Average value per ton	--	--	--
Imports for consumption <sup>e</sup>	2.5	2.6	2.3
Average value per ton	\$36.50	\$40.87	NA
Apparent consumption <sup>e, 3</sup>	38.3	37.8	32.2

<sup>e</sup>Estimated. NA Not available. W Withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data. -- Zero.

<sup>1</sup>Data may not add to totals shown because of independent rounding.

<sup>2</sup>Annualized data.

<sup>3</sup>Calculated as domestic sold or used plus imports minus exports.